The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter, September 10, 1912, at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 5, NO. 26 WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1915. WHOLE NO. 234

VERY PALPABLE DECEPTION

Washington, Sept. 25.—Newspapers connected with the Associated Press on September's carried a story asserting that the Railroad Brotherhoods were in active sympathy with that part of the report of the Industrial Relations Commission, signed by Commissioners Commons, Weinstock, Ballard, Aishton, and Herriman in which those commissioners recommend the appointment of a permanent industrial commission intended to supplant the present Mediation and Conciliation Bureau in the United States Department of Labor, as well as the Mediation Board which Martin A. Knapp is chairman. The article stated that a bill would be introduced at the next Congress, early in the session, embodying this idea and that the officers and members of the Railroad Brotherhoods would give it their active support. Mr. John P. McNamee, Editor of the Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen's Magazine, says in reply to a request for a statement of the recommendation: "I know of no action that has been taken by anyone representing brotherhood or other organizations regarding recommendations contained in the report of commissioners Commons, Ballard, Weinstock, Aishton and Harriman advocating the establishment of a permanent Industrial Relations Commission or something of that kind. Should I learn of any action or step being taken by the railroad organizations I will advise you."

The article was evidently the inspiring effort on the part of persons who would, if they could, undo the splendid services being rendered in behalf of industrial peace by the Mediation and Conciliation Bureau of the Department of Labor, as well as the service which has been rendered in behalf of peace by the negotiations in railroad disputes by the Mediation Board which was established early in 1913 but which is to take the place of the old Erdman Arbitration Act. It is pleasing to note that the officers and members of the railroad organizations are not a party to the proposed permanent industrial scheme of professional sociologists and so-called "friends of Labor."

ALL RESPONDED TO THE CALL.

Lowell, Mass., Sept. 25.—The cartridge workers employed in the United States Cartridge Company's plant precipitated a strike last week, 1,500 having left the job. A. F. of L. Organizer Frank H. McCarty then took charge and formed a cartridge workers' union. Following that action a list of demands were drawn up, and by the authority of the new union he was instructed to present them to the manager, Thomas B. Doe, included in the demands was recognition of the union, eight hours per day, no work between 6 p. m. Saturday and 7 a. m. Monday, overtime at time and a half, at the rate of time and one-half, the wages of all male operators to be increased 20 per cent, female operators to be increased 20 per cent, a definite pay day, and the agreement to continue for one year. When presented to Manager Doe he asked for time to consult the directors. No reply has been received from Manager Doe. Supt. Gerald Cahill informed the strikers that the concessions would not be granted.

Following the strike of the cartridge workers the machinists also left their jobs and now make common cause with the others. The entire plant is closed and 4,500 men and women are idle.

SWAMPED WITH STEEL ORDERS.

Philadelphia, Sept. 25.—An idea of the great volume of business that recently has come to the steel concerns of Pennsylvania is to be had from the announcement, made one day by representatives of all the large companies, that they are filled with orders for the present year and that now only will accept orders for the year 1916.

The orders for next year are coming forward in a great rush, they say, and this allows the boom is by no means temporary. These are for rails, cars, locomotives and structural material, independent of the war making. It is said the present orders as to inquiries for ordinary steel are the heaviest known in five years.

TEN THOUSAND ORGANIZED.

Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 25.—American Federation of Labor organizers, James E. Roach and Mary Sculley, have been successful in organizing 10,000 men and women into the various unions formed. For days they have been on the go, go, going, attending meetings and conferences with committees of strikers. In response to an urgent appeal from New Haven, they extended their work to that city, and during a brief stay organized additional unions, bringing the total up to the number named. Their activities are being continued and a further increase is expected.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 25.—Compulsory education bill became a law this week as soon as Gov. Henderson attaches his signature to a bill which passed the senate by a vote of 28 to 3 and the bill previously passed the house. The bill makes it compulsory for children of the ages of seven to 14 to attend school at least seven weeks in the year; it also makes it illegal to employ a child between those years named. The only states not having compulsory education are Mississippi and Georgia.

WILL WORK ONLY EIGHT HOURS.

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 25.—A broad construction has been placed by Attorney General Turner on the compulsory eight-hour law, providing an eight-hour work day for all employes engaged in public work, and the penalty provided for violations contained in the law passed in 1912, and which did not become operative by reason of the referendum, is now automatically puts thousands of employes in the state, city, county and township work under the provisions of the eight-hour day.

GRANTED REDUCED HOURS.

Springfield, Sept. 25.—Two more manufacturing concerns of the city have granted the eight-hour working day to their employes, basing their action to take effect, which became effective immediately.

The Knox Motors Company, employing 400 machinists, and Barney & Berry, Inc., skate makers, employing 190 men, announced that on November 1 they would also go into effect October 4 and will be granted without loss of pay.

WIN SHORTER HOURS FIGHT.

Bristol, Conn., Sept. 25.—The strike at the New Departure Manufacturing Company was settled when the employes voted to accept a compromise offer made by the company of a 50-hour week, with 10½ hours' pay. The 1,600 employes have returned to work.

ANTHRACITE MINERS' DEMANDS

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Sept. 25.—The very successful campaign of organization in which President White, of the United Mine Workers, has been engaged in in this section terminated last week when a convention of 500 delegates representing districts 1, 7 and 9 drew up demands for presentation to the operators. The list follows:

1. We demand that the next contract be for a period of two years, commencing April 1, 1916, and ending March 31, 1918, and that the making of individual agreements and contracts in the mining of coal shall be prohibited.

2. We demand an increase of 20 per cent on all wage rates now being paid in the anthracite coal fields.

3. We demand an eight-hour work day for all day labor employed in and around the mines, the present rates to be the basis upon which the advance above demanded shall apply, with time and half time for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays.

4. We demand full and complete recognition of the United Mine Workers of America in districts 1, 7 and 9, anthracite.

5. We demand a more simplified, speedy and satisfactory method of adjusting grievances.

6. We demand that no contract miner shall be permitted to have more than one working place.

7. We demand that the selling price of coal-mining supplies to miners to be on a more equitable and unifam basis.

8. We demand that wherever coal shall be mined in the car lots or coal shall be weighed and be paid for on a minerun basis by the ton of 2,240 pounds, and all refuse cleaned from the coal (either gobbed or loaded) shall be paid for on at the actual coal basis as is paid for the coal.

9. We demand a readjustment of the machine mining rates to the extent that equitable rates and conditions shall obtain as a basis for this system.

10. We demand that arrangements of detailed wage scales and the settlement of internal disputes, as well as regards prices and conditions, be referred to representatives of the operators and miners of each district to be adjusted on an equitable basis.

Probably the most important of these provisions is the effect that it will have on future conditions in the anthracite field are demands for full recognition, a uniform system and method of bargaining and the last demand that detailed matters shall be worked out in each district by conferences of local operators and miners.

By this last clause, President White has eliminated from the negotiations with the operators questions of comparatively minor importance, which in themselves might interfere with a settlement, and has instituted a system of having operating and miners into close relationship for mutual understanding and adjustment of conditions of matters peculiar to the districts.

TO FORCE THE SHORT HOUR ISSUE

Pittsburgh, Sept. 25.—Organized labor L. Lewis, U. S. A., at the request of representatives of the electrical workers and machinists have been conducting a vigorous campaign among the employes of the Westinghouse Company, East Pittsburgh, for the purpose of securing the adoption of the eight-hour hours. A crowd of 4,000 was Present at the last noonday meeting in the works.

President E. M. Herr, of the Westinghouse Company, was presented with a list of the demands and a request made for a reply at an early date. If a conference is not granted there is no doubt but what the men will respond to a call to cease work and probably will definitely tie up the large plant. For many weeks past the company has been working its employes day and night in an effort to keep up with the demand for its products from the allied nations. Now and employes are now working, the force being more than doubled recently.

COPPER MINERS ON STRIKE.

Tuscon, Ariz., Sept. 25.—Eight thousand men are now involved in the strike at Clifton, Morenci and Ajo, Arizona, against the Detroit Copper Company, the Arizona Copper Company and the Shannon Copper Company. The electrical machinists and boiler makers have joined the miners.

The strike results from the organization of a Western Federation of Miners union in the camps and the refusal of operations to deal with the representatives.

The strike has closed the mines of the Arizona and Detroit companies at Morencia, and the mines of the Arizona and Shannon company at Metcalf, also the smelters of the Shannon and Arizona Company at Clifton, the smelter of the Detroit company at Morenci and the concentrators of the Detroit and Arizona companies at Morencia.

BIG STRIKE IN PROVIDENCE.

Providence, R. I., Sept. 25.—About 3,500 of the 5,000 employes of the Brown and Sharpe Manufacturing Company are out on strike, the result of a refusal on the part of representatives of the concern to concede eight hours and an increase corresponding to what has been granted to other concerns in this section. Immediately following the action of the Manufacturers Association" wired the Department of Labor in Washington to send a mediator to Providence. In response to the request John A. Moffitt was dispatched to the city. The Brown and Sharpe Company is the largest establishment manufacturing plant in the United States. It has heretofore been especially unfriendly to labor unions and a bitter fight will no doubt result.

INCREASE FOR TELEGRAPHERS

St. Louis, Sept. 25.—All station agents and telegraphers employed by the Cotton Belt railroad system will receive salary increases of nine per cent beginning with November 1, it was announced by the executive offices of the road here today. In addition the eight hour day for station agents will be reduced from twelve to ten hours and telegraphers will work eight hours a day. Overtime will be increased from twenty-five to thirty-five cents an hour. The new schedule will increase the payroll by $40,000 annually.

NEW CLERKS' UNION

Niagara Falls, Sept. 25.—A new union of retail clerks was organized in this city on Tuesday evening at which time approximately included nearly 100 and the organization starts out with every prospect of being able to shorten their working hours.

NEW BARTENDERS' UNION.

Niagara Falls, Sept. 25.—Organizer J. D. Hennessy of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes' Union, held a large meeting in Commercial Hotel of bartenders and culinary workers. A new organization of nearly 100 members resulted.

POOR CHILDREN SACRIFICED

New York, Sept. 25.—Dr. Louis I. Dublin, statistician for the Metropolitan Life of the New York board of health, in the last issue of the board's bulletin, gives some startling facts regarding the mortality of the children of the poor. He says: The lives of the poor children are blasted before they are born, due to the fact that the mothers must help earn the family living. It is evident that the infants of these mothers show a much higher death rate than do those of mothers engaged in housework only. That these conditions play a part in mortality, both during infancy and later, is plainly evident. The highest death rates are found in the wards of cities where poverty is most common; the converse also holds good. This has been demonstrated in Johnstown, Pa., where the low family income and high infant mortality are closely associated. This is also further confirmed in an investigation at Fall River, where a group of 72 fathers was found employed in the cotton textile industry, earning an average of $10.22 per week. The average wage of each of these fathers were engaged in work outside their homes. Dr. Dublin continued his study of the matter and discovered that the mortality among 533 infants, born there, showed a death rate of 262, a rate more than twice as high as that recorded of a number of the same cities. Here the cause of the slaughter of the infants is plainly evident.

STREET CARMEN'S CONVENTION.

Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 25.—Three hundred and eleven delegates were present when the fourteenth biennial convention of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes which opened in this city last week. They represented a membership of 74,000 conductors and motormen. All the large cities of the United States and Canada were represented. Over 47,000 members were benefited by the wage increases ranging from 2 to 10 per cent since the last convention was held in Salt Lake City. The total annual wage increase for all divisions covered by Secretary Reeves' report is $4,050,000.

W. D. Mahon was unanimously re-elected president. Providence won out in the fight with Cleveland for the next convention, and by a decisive vote Detroit was designated as the permanent headquarters. Secretary-Treasurer Cory, William Taber, and John McGrath were named as delegates to the A. F. of L. convention.

MINIMUM WAGE FOR WOMEN.

Boston, Sept. 25.—The wages of women and girls 18 years of age or less to have been employed for at least one year in the department stores in this state, must be not less than $8 a week, beginning January 1, 1916, according to a decree announced by the minimum wage commission of Massachusetts.

The decree says that learners who have reached the age of 18 years shall receive not less than $6 a week, and that $6 a week is a wage for younger employes the minimum shall be $5.

It is stated that these rates will mean large increases in the wages of many employes, especially for the minors and the inexperienced. Where an employer fails to comply with the commission's decree it is to make and to publish the names of all such employers disobeying the decree, in at least four newspapers of general circulation in the state, with a statement of the minimum wages paid by such employers.

ALIEN LABOR LAW AT ISSUE.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Attorney General Jones, of Arizona, last week opened the fight in the Supreme Court over contract labor laws. He asked that the Foran law, by filing a brief in support of the statute. He contended that the welfare and prosperity of all of the nation demanded that only American citizens be employed in the mines of the United States. He referred to the use of copper as a war material.

The Foran law makes it a crime for an employer of more than five workmen to employ less than 80 per cent qualified voters or citizens. The case will be heard by the court next month, and the many constitutional complications involved, promises to be one of the most important to be decided during the present year. A lower court held it unconstitutional.

Attorney General Jones declared that the people of Arizona in enacting the law by the initiative method were as strongly impelled by the desire to protect safety and welfare as the legislature of Pennsylvania in passing a law, since held constitutional, against the sale of firearms to alien residents.

BIG DIVIDENDS.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 25.—The Labor Review vouches for the following items in this city: The Milk Wagon Drivers Union was organized three years ago with 125 on the roll. It increased on the average to the amount of $240. Total dues paid per member for the three years, $720. Total benefits in wages, the drivers have secured the advantage of fourteen days other concerns in this section. Immediately following the action of the Manufacturers Association" wired the Department of Labor in Washington to send a mediator to Providence. In response to the request John A. Moffitt was dispatched to the city. The Brown and Sharpe Company is the largest establishment manufacturing plant in the United States. It has heretofore been especially unfriendly to labor unions and a bitter fight will no doubt result.

SETTLEMENT IS REACHED.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 25.—The long-pending dispute between the laborers and builders has been finally adjusted, the result of a conference held last week. All men involved will return to work. No antiunite statement is given out, but it is understood that concessions were made to the laborers which they will not be given a portion of the work in dispute.

MULE SPINNERS' OFFICERS.

Boston, Sept. 25.—The annual convention of the Mule Spinners Association, which adjourned last Saturday, elected the following officers: George Thornton, Pawtucket, president; Samuel Rose, New Bedford, vice president; Thomas D. O'Connell, Fall River, treasurer, and Urbain Pothling, secretary and delegate to the A. F. of L. convention.

MACHINISTS MADE GAINS

Washington, Sept. 25.—The following is a list of places where machinists report gains:

New Departure Roler Bearing Company; of Bristol, Conn., reduced hours from 60 to 50, after a strike of about 10 hours. About 1,200 benefited, of whom 200 are machinists.

At Baton Rouge, La., the Standard Oil Company reduced hours from 9 to 8, benefiting 2,230 employes, of whom 280 were organized and worked at the following trades: Boilermakers, 200; pipefitters, 50; machinists, 20. The machinists' strike at Jackson, Ill. Rail-stan, of counsel for the A. F. of L. and Secretary Spencer, of the Building Trades Department, also addressed the convention.

President John H. Ferguson then assumed the chair and the business of the convention commenced. One of the important resolutions acted on was that giving free text books to the children of the high school of the District, and authorizing a committee to prepare a bill to present to Congress for the purpose of securing the necessary appropriation to make such a law operative. A large number of additional resolutions were acted on favorably.

The delegates were banqueted by the plans printers on Wednesday evening, a number of invited guests being present beside the delegates.

The officers chosen were: President, John H. Ferguson; recording secretary, Henry J. Hardy; secretary-treasurer, John A. Franey; and delegate to the A. F. of L., P. J. Ryan.

WAGE CONFERENCE SUCCESSFUL

Washington, Sept. 25.—There will be no strike of the wagon and bottle blowers this season. A settlement on last year's wages had been reached. The representatives of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada at its recent convention in Atlantic City after prolonged and tense joint sessions.

The representatives of the glaze blowers absolutely refused to consider the proposed wage reduction of 25 per cent which was announced urged by the manufacturers. The workers also succeeded in winning a favorable decision in the apprentice question, and as a result of the conference just closed, no new apprentices will be appointed this season. Other important agreements apply to both blown and machine departments.

LABOR LAWS VIOLATED.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 25.—Eighty-eight prosecutions for violations of the law to protect workers in Pennsylvania were instituted by the department of the secretary of labor and industry from September 1 to September 16.

Fifty-seven employers are being prosecuted for violating the laws affecting women workers, and 35 suits are brought against violators of the laws regulating the employment of minors. Seven proprietors of establishments are being prosecuted for failing to comply with orders previously issued by inspectors of the department.

Philadelphia leads the list with 23 prosecutions, Pittsburgh is second, Bellton has 6; Williamsburg, Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Phillipsburg and Watsontown each have 3.

PROPOSED INNOVATION.

Boston, Sept. 25.—A resolution was passed by the Grand Council of Carpenters of Massachusetts at a recent meeting which places increases of pay, working rules, dues, initiation fees and other matters under a system of general referendum. These matters have been acted upon by the district council heretofore. The admission of the Carpenters' District Council of Lynn brought the membership up to 13,000. A universal working card was also adopted.

The officers are: Charles A. Mitton, Williams, president; Edward J. Walsh, Brookline, vice president; Elmer G. Walker, Salem, recording secretary; A. H. Sproul, Winchester, financial secretary-treasurer.

CARPENTERS' VICTORY.

Niagara Falls, Sept. 25.—Organizer F. J. Starrh reports that the carpenters employed on two sections of the Welland Canal job had already joined the union. The contractors that it is now only a matter of a short time until the contractors will sign an agreement similar to the one entered into by the Master Builders Construction Company which has a contract for three other sections of the canal. This agreement calls for a nine hour work day. It means the establishment of forty cents an hour, with double pay for overtime. The agreement is to be signed in less than one shift in twenty-four hours unless in case of an emergency.

WANTS AN INJUNCTION.

Cleveland, Sept. 25.—One hundred and ten defendants are named in a suit filed in federal court by Adam Hoffman, director of a big storage and carting company, asking a receiver for his company and a blanket injunction restraining the defendants from molesting him or interfering with the business of the company. Hoffman names every storage and carting company in Cleveland in the suit that they be restrained from helping the union in any way. Hoffman's men have been on strike several weeks.

WANTS LAND FOR PEASANTS.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Sept. 25.—A demand that the Porto Rico government buy peasants the land is made by Luis A. F. of L. Organizer Iglesias, in the official newspaper of the Federation of Labor. The trade unionist thus attempts to prevent openers and foreign corporations from buying up the land, thereby depriving the natives offered by modern conditions. Industrial depression and speculation have caused the height of the interest rates and living costs have arisen proportionately, says Iglesias.

MINE OWNERS INDICTED.

Vancouver, B. C., Sept. 25.—Announcement was made here today that Attorney General of British Columbia had laid indictments for manslaughter against Premier McBride, J. H. Conkie, two mining men, prominent in Canada. They are charged with carelessness in connection with the disaster that caused the loss of nineteen lives in the Reserve mine near Nanaimo on February 24 last.

STRIKE ENDED.

Youngstown, Ohio, Sept. 25.—The strike of moulding makers at the plant of the William Tod Company here has been settled after a conference between the strikers' committee and the company managers. Over 100 men have gone back to work after being out of work a week.

They will receive an increase in wages with other acceptable concessions.

READING THE HANDWRITING.

Jersey City, Sept. 25.—The Hudson County grand jury, which was ordered to investigate the cases of the guards who are being held in connection with the killing of nine citizens during the recent strikes at the Bayonne plants of the Standard Oil and Tidewater Oil companies, have been sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Swayze.

The justice reviewed the State riot laws, explaining that twelve armed persons, or thirty unarmed persons engaging in disorder, constituted a riot; but private persons had no right to suppress riots and, consequently, no right to maintain armed forces for that purpose.

He added that if private parties had such rights anarchy would result; that no person had the right to take life solely for the protection of property, and if life was taken in defense of property only a constituted number. If persons illegally armed themselves in defense of property, the justice said, and death resulted, all were equally guilty of murder, for all who participated in an illegal act were equally guilty.

SECURED WAGE RESTORATION.

Toronto, Can., Sept. 25.—William Glockling, representing the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, has just returned to this city after a strenuous month's work in the cities of Montreal and Quebec. In conjunction with Organizer Drury, of the International Typographical Union, he was successful in reaching an agreement with one of the largest firms in the former city who employ a large staff of bookbinders and printers.

This firm had put into operation a 10 per cent reduction in wages which affected a staff of working staff of men, women and girls.

Organizers with the firm were carried on for some time, and finally resulted in the whole matter being amicably adjusted, the firm agreeing to restore the former rate of wages and the amounts which had been taken from the employes in the firms, employing 2,532 machinists.

PHONE MANAGER FINED.

Marlboro, Mass., Sept. 25.—Frank A. Wilson, manager of a telephone exchange here, was fined $50 for violating the law which forbids the employment of a woman more than 54 hours a week. The case was brought in by the state board of labor and industry.

The agreed facts were that Miss Esther Hazlett, employed nights at the local exchange, worked from 7 p. m. until 12 midnight. She then returned to an adjoining room and rested during the remainder of the night until 6 a. m. when she resumed work. She was ready to respond to emergency calls and could not leave the building between 12 and 6 a. m.

It was admitted that the operator was required to be present at the switchboard, but most of the hours permitted by the statute, but it was contended that the period between midnight to 6 in the morning, during which the operator was privileged to rest, subtracted from the 54 hours, should be excluded in reckoning the hours of her employment.

Judge McDonald ruled that upon the facts proved the woman was employed in violation of the provisions of the law.

An appeal was taken.

UPHOLD EMPLOYES' RIGHTS.

New York, Sept. 25.—Decisions involving the rights of employes were rendered by Justices Cohalan and Shearn, of the Supreme Court. Both decisions were in favor of the employes. In one there was no written agreement limiting his activities, was justified in leaving the factory and refusing to work for his former employer even though he had signed a contract to do so.

In the other suits was that of the Pioneer Paper Company against Bruney, who was a driver, and who engaged himself in the employ of a rival concern. He did what he could to transfer the business of the customers with whom he was personally acquainted to his last employer. An injunction, restraining Bruney, was applied for, and Justice Cohalan denied it.

TO KILL CHILD LABOR LAW.

Philadelphia, Sept. 25.—The members of the Manufacturers Association, according to reports, have practically reached the agents of the State Department of Labor and Industry, having charge of the enforcement of the child labor law passed at the last session of the legislature. This is to be done by the charging of from five to nine mills children between fourteen and sixteen years who are permitted to work under the provisions of continuation schools eight hours each week.

The manufacturer, who evidently voiced the sentiments of his associates, is quoted by a factory inspector as saying: "By January no children who come under the provisions of the recent act will be employed in our establishments," which will affect the pocketbooks of thousands of families, and has aroused considerable public opinion toward a revision of the law.

WORKING HOURS AGREED ON.

Chicago, Sept. 25.—An adjustment of the differences between the employers and Lady Garment Workers has been reached and the strike is ended. An arbitration board has awarded the workers nine hour five day week, beginning Saturday. Overtime conditions were agreed upon, and the matter of sanitary conditions referred to a committee, whose agreement is expected to act no deposits and to make no charge for power, oil, needles or belts, and for the girls to be sub-contracting. The dispute involved over 4,000 workers. The matter of wages is yet to be disposed of by the arbitration board. An official of the organization is credited with asserting that it is a great victory.

KNITTERS WIN AN INCREASE.

Bristol, Conn., Sept. 25.—The knitters employed by the Bristol Manufacturing Company of 12 cents per hundred pounds of yarn. The demand was refused by the firm, resulting in a cessation of work. The previous price was $1.78. By the settlement the price will be paid $1.86 per hundred pounds of yarn.

WANT A 50-HOUR WEEK.

Boston, Sept. 25.—About 150 members of Upholsterers' Union No. 6 are out on strike to secure a 50-hour week. They demand that the forms involved given an agreement that they will not in dull periods take away privileges gained by the strikers.

TELEGRAPH RATES ARE CUT

New York, Sept. 25.—Six months ago the rate for special delivery fires was 10 per mile per year for night service. Now Postmaster Cruise cuts rate on request 7 to 25. This war met by the Postal with further cut to $2.50 per mile a year for leased press wires. Some idea of the expense to which a large daily paper is subjected as a result of the higher rates is shown from the fact that one Chicago paper paid approximately $10,000 per year for its service; the last cut reduces that amount to $2,500.

President Mackay of the Postal Company is quoted as saying: "Our wires are idle at night and so we can afford to transmit news for the press cheaply. We have decided to do so. The whole public will get the benefit." No announcement has been made of a reduction in the rate for day wires, which remains at $5, night times the rate now paid the Postal for night service. Indication of the reduction in rates in Atlantic City was the fact that at the beginning of the year the Associated Press leased 28,000 miles of wire at a cost of $350,000 for night service. The Postal Union follows the example of the Postal, in that 28,000 miles of wire will be $84,000, or a saving of $266,000 from the rate paid previous to August 1.

TO BUILD PACKING PLANT.

Biloxi, Miss., Sept. 25.—The International Packing Company's association of this city, through President Walter Lazar, announces that the union will erect a packing plant with one of oysters and shrimp, probably in Biloxi, at a cost of $150,000. President Lazar said that the union had already subscribed to finance the undertaking and approximately $100,000 more is demanded to build the plant. The company will pack shrimp and oysters and will be known as the Longshoremen's association.

INEVITABLE ANTICIPATED.

Reading, Pa., Sept. 25.—The Birdsboro Steel Foundry and Machine Company posted a notice stating that on October 1 the wages of 1,500 employes would be increased 4 per cent. This is in virtually a 5 per cent raise, as recently 6 per cent advance was granted as a restoration of the same amount of reduction made when the depression set in.

At the blast furnace of the Brooke Iron Company here was also posted informing the workmen that beginning October 1 an increase of 10 per cent would be made in their wages.

REFUSE TO BE SPEEDED UP.

New York, Sept. 25.—One hundred cancers' employes at the Hunters Point plant of the Standard Oil Co., refused to speed up at the machines at the present time. A strike resulted, throwing out of work 600 other men employed in the stilling and bottling departments. It is demanded that the men do as much work in 8 hours as had been done previous to the reduction in the working hours. Two days a compromise was reached and they returned to work.

MILK DRIVERS AVOID A STRIKE.

Boston, Sept. 25.—All grievances between the Milk Wagon Drivers and the large concerns of this city have been settled and a strike averted. The new agreement will be in force for two years, the first increase under the new contract dating back to the first of this month. On September 1, 1916, the remainder of the increase will be made in their wages. Similar more than the men were paid under the old agreement, will become effective.

LONGSHOREMEN PLACATED.

New York, Sept. 25.—After being on strike four days the longshoremen employed by the United Fruit Co., came to terms with the officials of that company and have returned to work. The agreement provides that a wage of 30 to 32 cents an hour, instead of four days' work, 40 cents an hour for night work and 60 cents an hour for Sunday work. Before the strike a flat rate of 25 cents and hour was paid.

MAKING GOOD PROGRESS.

Girard, Kan., Sept. 25.—Secretary Ed. Morris, of Federal Labor Union, this city says that organized labor is making splendid progress here. Since last fall the membership has increased 67,986,000 against 48,965,000 during the year 1914. This means an increase of 18,021,000 for the month, or a little over half a million each day. Secretary Morris says that this showing and urges all trade unionists to assist in boosting union-labeled bread.

OPERATORS GET AN INCREASE.

Springfield, Mo., Sept. 25.—Stage Employes and Moving Picture Operators' Local No. 142, has succeeded in signing up all moving picture and show houses in the city, making their organization 100 per cent. The scale went into effect on one year and went into effect September 1, and carries with it a handsome advance. The hod carriers and mortar mixers were granted the same advance, bringing their pay up to $3.50 per day of 8 hours.

INCREASED USE OF LABELS.

Chicago, Sept. 25.—During the month of August the union-label output of Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union amounted to 67,986,000 against 48,965,000 during the year 1914. This means an increase of 18,021,000 for the month, or a little over half a million each day. Secretary Morris says that this showing and urges all trade unionists to assist in boosting union-labeled bread.

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INCREASED USE OF LABELS.

Chicago, Sept. 25.—During the month of August the union-label output of Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union amounted to 67,986,000 against 48,965,000 during the year 1914. This means an increase of 18,021,000 for the month, or a little over half a million each day. Secretary Morris says that this showing and urges all trade unionists to assist in boosting union-labeled bread.

OPERATORS GET AN INCREASE.

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STUDENT STRIKE-BREAKERS.

Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 25.—Soon after a strike was declared against the American Chain Company a number of students of Yale University left the classes of those who were demanding shorter hours and better wages. Their action has caused much criticism and returned to the college. The strike is still on and the loss of time and students has badly crippled the company.

STRIKE COMPROMISED.

Pawtucket, R. I., Sept. 25.—The steam-fitters who have been on strike for a week have returned to work following an agreement made with their employers. They will work under the old existing contracts at the old wage rate and that on subsequent contracts they will receive as much a day additional, making $4 a day.

RAINCOAT MAKERS ORGANIZE.

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 25.—The raincoat makers here in fine meeting to discuss the question of organizing, and as a result the entire shop signed for a charter application. Organizer Solomon sent in the document and it bears the names of practically every one of all the raincoat makers in the city.